(iv) In specially deserving cases on merits in-OYT-Special category: Government, Public Sector Undertakings, Joint Sector Undertakings, foreign exchange earners, retired officers of public sector undertakings.

Non-OYT/SS categary : Retired Central/State Govern- ment officers, foreign missions and embassies, UN Organisations, Members of Parliament, M.L.As/M.L.Cs. etc. and distinguished persons.

(v) Telephone connections in other categories can be sanctioned depending upon the merits of the case.

3. Normally, new telephone connections are released/shifting effected from the waiting list on maturity of their turn. However, telephone connections in deserving cases can be sanctioned and shifts effected on priority basis on the merits of individual case.

Telecom expansion plan for Punjab

48. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) which of the telephone exchanges in Punjab been modernised/ expanded during the last year; and

(b) what are the telecom expansion plans for Punjab for the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The information is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(b) It is proposed to add about 44600 new lines of switching capacity in Punjab during 1989-91.

Statement

Exchanges expanded/modernised during last year (1988-89) are:

—Amritsar 7000 lines electronics & 900 lines strowger
—Ludhiana 8000 lines electronic
—Jullundar 3000 ,, ,,
—Khana 1000 ,, ,, (PRX)
—Abohar 1000 ,, ,,
—Pathankot 500 ,, ,,

—Patiala & Bhatinda expanded by 600 lines each

—Panchkula & Kharar expanded 200 lines each

—11 exchanges (GBM) Samana, Sirhand, Dhini, Nawan Shahar, Mulapur, Jullalabad, Dorah Sunam, Barnala, Mansa & Batala expanded by 120 lines each.

—8 exchanges: Rajpura, Fazilka, Ropar, Patti, Mohali, Sangrur, Moga & Nabha (MAX-I) expanded by 100 lines each.

—2 exchanges: Malot, Gidar Baha (CBM) have been expanded by 80 lines each. Besides, exchanges (CENM) (CBM) expanded by varying capacity ranging from 9 lines to 70 lines eac

In addition 34 SAXs 25 lines each installed & 19 SAXs expanded by 25 lines to 45 lines ea

3 exchanges: Goraya (CBM), Sanewal (CBM) & Rayya (CBNM) have been replaced modern electronic exchanges of 700 lines, 500 lines & 320 lines respectively.